



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

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Fifth District

January 27, 2004

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

LACDA Authorization

On January 15, 2004, Assemblyman Bob Pacheco hosted a meeting in Sacramento to discuss implementation of AB 1147 and authorization of the LACDA Project. The meeting was attended by the Deputy Director and Deputy Assistant Director of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the County's Sacramento Advocates, and Rod Kubomoto, from the Department of Public Works (DPW). The State officials indicated they were impressed by the County's progress on improvements to the L.A. River and are very supportive of moving as quickly as is possible on full authorization of the LACDA Project. There will be a meeting of the L.A. River Master Plan Advisory Committee (LARMPAC) on January 28, 2004. The meeting will be attended by DWR, as well as all other stakeholders. This will be the first meeting of the LARMPAC since the Secretary of the Resources Agency appointed it as the "advisory committee" required in AB 1147. DPW will work with the LARMPAC to quickly update the plan for the L.A. River for the Board's approval, as required by AB 1147. Although flood control project subventions have been suspended in the State budget, and the Governor has delayed the appropriation of Proposition 50 funds, our Sacramento Advocates will continue to work on finding potential sources of funding for LACDA subvention.

Pursuit of Position on Legislation

AJR 59 (Maze), which was introduced on January 22, 2003, would memorialize the Legislature's request that the President and Congress support continued operation and maintenance of all military bases currently in operation in California. Support for AJR 59 is consistent with the County's Federal Legislative Agenda, adopted by the Board on January 20, 2004, which opposes proposals which would result in downsizing and/or closure of the Los Angeles Air Force Base. **Therefore, the County's Sacramento Advocates will support passage of AJR 59.**

Status of County-Interest Legislation

County-sponsored AB 44 (Pacheco), which would address technical issues regarding the notification of various parties of juvenile court proceedings to determine, review, revise or terminate the status of a child as a dependent child of the court, was withdrawn from the Governor's Desk and returned to the Senate on January 20, 2004 because current language in the bill would "chapter out" other bills signed in 2003. Amendments are currently being drafted in order to correct the problem.

County-supported AB 340 (Frommer), which would make it illegal to sell, offer for sale, buy, possess, manufacture, or distribute a device capable of sending a signal that interrupts or changes the sequence of a traffic signal, was amended on January 14, 2004 to add that a person operating a transit bus equipped with an authorized device is exempt from this rule.

County-supported AB 384 (Leslie), which would require the State Department of Corrections and the California Youth Authority to adopt regulations prohibiting the possession of tobacco products by inmates in state prison and Youth Authority facilities, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee on January 22, 2004 by a 22 to 1 vote and passed the Assembly by a vote of 64 to 4 on January 26, 2004. It now proceeds to the Senate.

County supported, if amended, AB 496 (Correa), was amended on January 22, 2004 to once again establish a Santa Ana River Conservancy. This bill was originally introduced on February 14, 2003. The Board voted to support the bill if it were amended to include representation of the County, as well as Los Angeles County cities that are in the Santa Ana River watershed, on the Conservancy's board. On September 9, 2003 we reported that the bill had been amended, changing the bill's subject to private post-secondary vocational educational institution accreditation. We reported on September 15, 2003 that the bill was changed again, authored by Assemblyman Lowenthal to exempt certain petroleum products, known as "bunker fuels", from local and State sales and use taxes until 2014. That version of the bill was not acted on prior

to adjournment. The reintroduced version of the original bill authorizes the Conservancy until January 1, 2012 and prohibits it from implementing the funding authorization until the Legislature appropriates, from other than General Fund sources, or a bond act, the necessary funds. As the bill still does not include representation of Los Angeles County or its cities on the Conservancy's board, our Sacramento advocates will again work with the author to amend the bill.

County-supported AB 1432 (Firebaugh), which would eliminate provisions of California law barring California prosecution of defendants based on foreign convictions or acquittals and provides credit for actual time served in a foreign country for the same crime, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee on a vote of 22 to 1 on January 22, 2004 and passed the Assembly by a vote of 71 to 1 on January 26, 2004. It now proceeds to the Senate.

County-supported and amended AB 1618 (Firebaugh and Calderon), which would require railroad companies in California to develop an approved protocol for rapid communication with the State Office of Emergency Services, the California Highway Patrol and designated local agencies in an endangered area during emergency situations where there is a runaway train, was referred to the Assembly Committee on Transportation on January 20, 2004, to consider the Senate technical amendments.

County-supported AB 1663 (Dutra), which would extend the repeal date of January 1, 2005 to January 1, 2010 allowing counties to continue to impose an additional \$1 fee on registered vehicles, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee on January 22, 2004 by a vote of 22 to 1 and passed the Assembly by a vote of 62 to 7 on January 26, 2004. It now proceeds to the Senate.

We will continue to keep you informed.

DEJ:GK
MAL:JF/JL/DS:ib/hg

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Local 660
All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants